

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration, reexamination, and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The above amendments are fully supported by the specification and therefore do not constitute new matter. More specifically, support can be found at page 4, lines 12-19, page 8, lines 6-19, page 14, line 13 to page 15, line 20, and page 16, lines 12-18, as well as throughout the specification and original claims.

The method claims 49-70 and 76-80 have been added to coincide with the product claims. Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of these method claims upon allowance of the product claims, in accordance with M.P.E.P. §821.04.

The rejections in the outstanding office action of October 15, 2004 have been completely addressed in the amendment and response filed March 14, 2005. Therefore, applicants will not address them further here, directs the Examiner to that response.

Summary of Interview Held April 19, 2005

Applicant's representative greatly appreciates the Examiner's helpful comments provided at the interview held April 19, 2005. As required by 37 C.F.R. §1.133(b), the discussion at the interview centered on possible proposed claim amendments and overcoming the outstanding rejections.

Att'y Dkt. No. US-1260

U.S. App. No.: 09/466,935

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Favorable consideration, examination, and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully submit that the present patent application is in condition for allowance. An early indication of the allowability of the present patent application is therefore respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner Steadman believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, they are invited to call on the number below.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the undersigned authorizes the necessary charges to our deposit account 50-3077.

Respectfully submitted,

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